MUTINY

A PAPER OF ANARCHISTIC IDEAS & ACTIONS

NUMBER 9 DECEMBER 2006

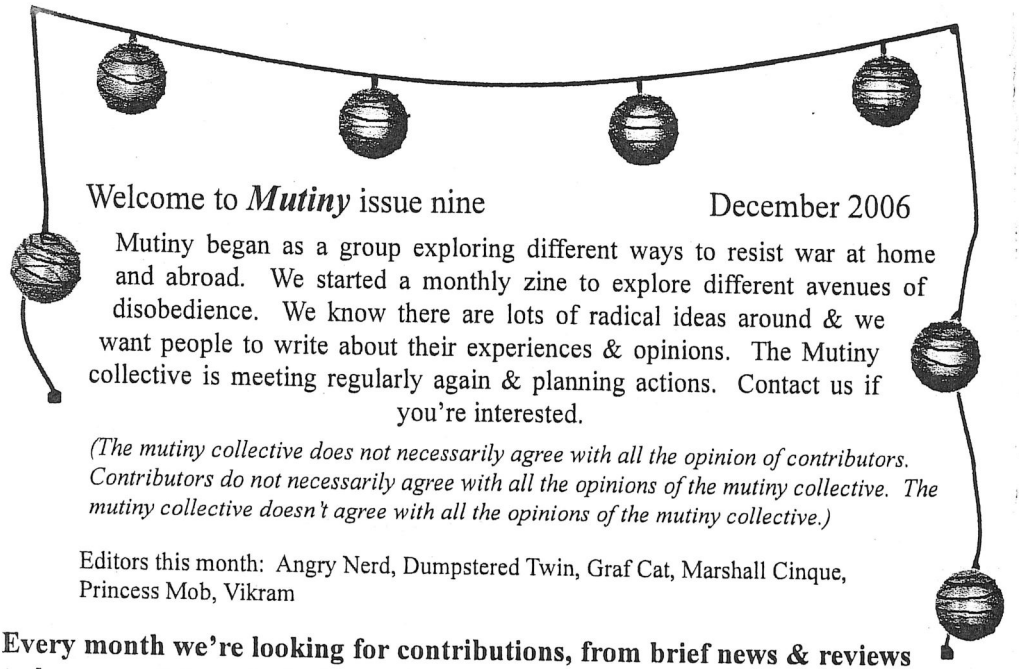
Shutter it Down!

G20 : Some Perspectives

Make Your Choices Count

Long Live No King: Unrest in Tonga

War: Never Has So Much Death Been Worth So Much Capital



Welcome to ***Mutiny*** issue nine December 2006

Mutiny began as a group exploring different ways to resist war at home and abroad. We started a monthly zine to explore different avenues of disobedience. We know there are lots of radical ideas around & we want people to write about their experiences & opinions. The Mutiny collective is meeting regularly again & planning actions. Contact us if you're interested.

(The mutiny collective does not necessarily agree with all the opinion of contributors. Contributors do not necessarily agree with all the opinions of the mutiny collective. The mutiny collective doesn't agree with all the opinions of the mutiny collective.)

Editors this month: Angry Nerd, Dumpstered Twin, Graf Cat, Marshall Cinque, Princess Mob, Vikram

Every month we're looking for contributions, from brief news & reviews to longer articles. And pictures! We love pictures! Please get in touch: our address is at the bottom of the page.

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News In Brief

Vanuatu: Neoliberal land-grab

Much like the neoliberal land reforms that added fuel to the Zapatista revolt, Vanuatu is experiencing the same neoliberal colonialism. What was once communal and tribal land has now allowed land titles to be transferred into individual ownership. The creation of a formal land registry, in recent years, has allowed for the first time individuals to sign over traditional land to Australian resort and housing developers, acting on the behalf of their mainly Australian investors. The leases are for 75 years, but by that stage, the untouched landscape, and the Melanesian way of life, would be unrecognisable.

Traditional owners are not carefully identified before they are allowed to register the land that they are on, which means that by the time the true owners realise that their land has been leased, and apparently mostly in haphazard circumstances, development would have already been well underway. On leased beach fronts, no longer accessible by the public, titles extend over 15m into the sea: well over rich fishing reefs. This effectively creates a land-lockout for surrounding villages from their livelihoods and food sources. Tracts of land were also sold, on the idea, that proposed resorts would provide greater employment opportunities for local villagers, however these are being subdivided for a suburb to spring up instead. The highly contentious arrangements, have found the Melanesian people resisting further developments by setting up roadblocks and sabotaging the 'development' of their land and culture.

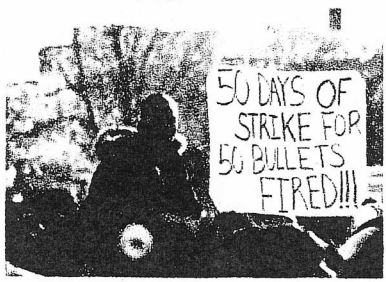
China: Execution of peasant political prisoner

In Sichuan province, a 20 year-old political prisoner was executed in late November for the apparent 'deliberate killing' of a police officer during a 2004 anti-corruption protest in relation to the immense Three Gorges dam constructions.

Estimates of 100,000 local farmers and students are said to have participated in the protest against being forcibly evicted from their farms and receiving vastly underestimated compensation for their purposely undervalued productive land. This led to accusations of corruption, in which half of the compensation paid out ended up in the pockets of provincial officials. Protestors halted the operations of a power station after they broke through armed police guarding it, to stage a 2-day sit-in. 10,000 armed police were mobilised to break up the protest when they were met with angry resistance. 2 people died and 42 injured as the result of police actions.

Neither Chen Tao's family nor his defence lawyer were notified of his execution beforehand. Though the exact reasoning for his rushed execution remains hazy, it is apparent that the execution was forced through before provincial courts lose their power of capital punishment to a national supreme court.

It is understood that this was amongst 74,000 'mass incidents', over land-grabs, illegal pollution and official corruption, that occurred across the country that year – civil unrest is still on the rise and continues to plague authorities.



USA: Pigs murder unarmed black man

Sean Bell, was murdered by police as he left a nightclub in Queens, New York with friends on the morning of his wedding day. Bell, who was unarmed, was gunned down in a hail of 50 bullets by undercover cops who had not indentified themselves. Two others in the group were hospitalised from bullet wounds.

While City Hall attempts to appease anger with promises of an 'investigation', there has been angry marches and rallies in the community. This included the 'March of Outrage' organised by the New Black Panther Party, which converged on the 103rd precinct police station with signs saying, 'death to the pigs' and 'shoot back'.

Make Your Choices Count

A critique of the Unions' 'No Work Choices' campaign

by Bitter Victoria

"Join The Campaign", "Join The Campaign".

"We're gonna fight this thing and win".

These were the words union officials bellowed repetitiously across the MCG in Melbourne and through television screens to some hundreds of thousands of people across the country on November 30th, attending their local 'Stop Work Choices' rally.

Whilst the voices of union officials sounded aggressive and passionate I could find little in their speeches to substantiate my ideas of a political battle. The unions have done well at creating an appearance that there is indeed a fight being pursued within their movement. However these catch phrases appeared to be little more than left wing rhetoric remaining from years when the unions once engaged in direct action. Their new campaign however, consists of a media and sticker campaign. The 'fight' being waged in this campaign is against John Howard; an electoral pursuit to get Labor into power.

"The only way to win is to get rid of John Howard" were the words which came from the final union speaker secretary's mouth. He continued with, "John Howard is not prepared to repeal the laws, so we must elect a government that will". The unions have gone to no lengths to hide their election agenda: Kym Beazley was the sole politician to speak at the rally.

Kym Beazley told the audiences that he would bring back annual leave and public holidays, that workers would have the right to collectively bargain with their employers. What Beazley didn't say, however, is whether he would reinstate award conditions which have been removed.

Beazley too had a certain rhetoric. His rhetoric spoke of fairness and the all too common catch phrase 'Australian values'. I only have contempt for the words 'Australian values' thrown about in this racist nation. I find it difficult to trust Labor's notion of fairness when it was their party whom introduced mandatory detention of asylum seekers.

The rally heard directly from many workers across Australia about how they have been fired with no notice after years of service, fined for taking industrial action, fined for looking after their safety, and asked to sign contracts which do not allow them any annual leave or public holidays. The consequences of this legislation just within 8 months has been quite dire for many people.

Disappointingly, however unsurprisingly, the majority of the faces being shown were those of white heterosexuals and their families. This campaign is extremely white and heteronormative. By heteronormative I mean that the campaign works within the homophobic culture we live in,

in assuming that the majority of people in our society are heterosexuals, with fixed genders. This culture and its behaviours work to alienate those who do not fit into this mould. The exclusion of these communities makes this campaign racist and homophobic.

The heteronormative 'working class' ideology of the 'struggling 2.4 kids family' is being furthered by the unions. One of the 'campaign days' last year, just before the senate were about to vote on the new Industrial Relations laws, consisted of a 'Family Picnic Day'.

This is a campaign pushing the notion of 'strong family values' are pertinent to the workers' movement. These ideals around family values are conservative and aligned with right wing ideologies such as fixed gender roles, fixed gender, heterosexuality being seen as the 'right' and 'natural' sexual preference, and families being happy and nuclear.

It is these sorts of ideologies which inform the current right wing push to make abortion illegal, find John Howard speaking out against gay marriage and allow outrageous anti Muslim statements and racist policies. It is these values which mean queer people have extremely high suicide rates, that Arabic people are constantly threatened within their own neighbourhoods, and environments are sustained where domestic violence goes unchallenged.

The unions' campaign, whether consciously or unconsciously, only reinforces right wing and conservative values around gender, race and sexuality. It also does nothing to attempt breaking down the divisions which exists between white and non white people, heterosexual individuals/families and non heterosexual individuals/families caused by racism and homophobia. It is for these reasons I find myself deeply questioning my support for such a campaign.

Whilst I harbour much resentment towards the unions and their campaign I have found inspiration in the many communities whom are engaging in a real struggle to end the devastation caused by employers and the Howard Government. Many working people and their communities have been joining collectively to put an end to appalling work contracts and conditions, with inspiring outcomes.

The real fight, the real struggle, lies with us. The unions will not save us from peril.

The unions have shown they are not interested in the working class struggle. Their campaign reinforces ideas of state power being central to workers rights. The unions are not interested in a struggle that seeks to give us more power together, but a power which sees their bureaucracy legitimised.

I believe we can abolish AWAs and the current IR legislation, and continue to fight for workers' rights and liberation. We need to engage in a struggle which is diverse, and supports each person within their community and their needs.

It is the struggle for workers' autonomy in the workplace which needs to be seen as the same fight for all of our liberation: Indigenous people, queers, those without papers, people of colour, disabled people, the poor and women alike. Without this kind of solidarity and respect for autonomy we are not 'winning' much.

SHUtter it down!

Metal workers at Thompson's Roller Shutters, a company at Turella in Sydney, won an inspiring victory in late November against the Howard Government's attempts to intensify oppression and exploitation in the workplace.

The workers had been on strike for four weeks before they won a collective agreement which increases pay, guarantees improved redundancy packages, protects award conditions and guards against victimisation.

For over a year management had been refusing to sign a collective agreement, had recently tried to force all workers onto individual contacts (AWAs) and had begun summary dismissals of people who spoke up for their rights.

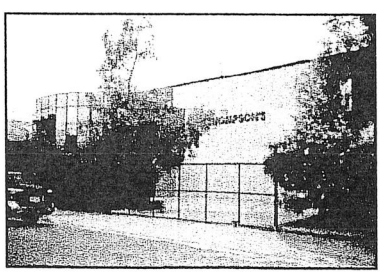
Geoff, the AMWU organisor at the site, explained the way recent WorkChoices legislation impacted upon boss/worker relations at Thompsons, "With WorkChoices he (the boss) doesn't have to sit down with us to work out a collective agreement... now he runs Howard's agenda right to the limit, treats the workers like rubbish... Two workers have been sacked without notice, one bloke has been here 12 years, got sacked, and all he got was one weeks pay, and that's WorkChoices".

There was a strong anti-racist element to the strike. Of the 12 full time metal workers at Thompsons, the 9 who had migrated to Australia were on strike, while three anglos crossed the picket line to work.

Racism had been cultivated by the boss within the workplace, and was consistently felt by the workers. Ahmed, a striker from Indonesia said, "Every time there was something in the media about the War on Terror it was taken out on us here". A Lebanese worker Hussein had been a consistent target. The union delegate Prakash explained, "he was called a kebab-muncher, Osama Bin Laden, told to go home".

The issue came to a head when Hussein demanded the boss remove graffiti which read "25 years" from his locker, a reference to the sentences granted in a recent rape case which had been heavily racialised in the media. He was subsequently fired for "causing division in the workplace", the day before workers were set to go on strike.

The dispute starkly illustrates the relation between racism and class politics. The new laws have a disproportionate impact on communities who are already marginalised and intensify disciplinary pressures to simply accept this marginalisation. Racism also serves to divide workers from each other, stifling ability to pose a united challenge to exploitation.



However, the strong collective action of the workers at Thompson's also point to the way these processes need to be fought. When asked what message he would give to other workers experiencing racism, Prakash argued, "You've got to fight mate. If we fight, we can win. If not, we all go back". Their action has forced a respect from both the boss and fellow workers who had gone along with the racism, opening space for a more profound unionism.

The strike was supported by community picket lines organised by Worker Solidarity NSW, a new campaign group modeled on the successful Union Solidarity group in Melbourne (www.unionsolidarity.org). Fearing new IR laws which threaten massive fines for disruptive action, the workers were not blockading the entrance to the site for the first three weeks.

In the fourth week we joined the picket. For five mornings, Worker Solidarity mobilised left activists - mostly students and rank and file workers - adding a more militant dynamic to the picket line, causing production levels to be seriously affected. AMWU organiser Geoff explained the impact of the pickets, "Without the community support, the community protesters down here, this picket line wouldn't be nearly as good as it is... we would still be where we were at day one".

While building rank and file organisation within our own unions remains important, radical activists can play a quite meaningful role helping to radicalise the broader union campaign by organising picket lines like the one at Turella, challenging WorkChoices with direct action at the point of production. The pickets can help build confidence in the industrial action that is needed to take the laws head on and strengthen networks of militants willing to make such action a successful reality.

There is a tension between the militancy of Worker Solidarity and official union structures, one which is often frustrating but, if negotiated well, can be fruitful. The union officials at Turella were quite hostile to the idea of a full blockade, worried it would lead to fines, compromise the union's assets and jepordise negotiations. It was important to push our argument to the limit and try where possible to hold a strong picket. However, it was also necessary to make sure there was no blatant defiance of these wishes, so we can build up a trust within the broader union movement and be invited to more picket lines.

Rather than fighting with officials, our focus needs to be on learning from, networking and helping to build the confidence of the striking workers. Discussions on that picket line were amazing. One man had been involved in street fighting with police for over a month during the crisis which eventually brought down Suharto in Indonesia during the late 90s. Others from the Philippines shared experiences from the movement against military dictatorship during the 70s and the current struggle against Arroyo. It was deeply inspiring hearing them talk about the need to fight back against the racism and attacks on workers' rights that are coming so consistently from this Government – well worth the many 5am starts.

See you at the next picket line!

by Paddy

G20: some perspectives

What happened at the Melbourne G20 protests in November can't be captured in a single story. This, a selection from some published accounts, is only the very beginning.
As we write, 'Taskforce Salver', formed after the protests to catch demonstrators, has made six arrests. Akin Sari, arrested on the Sunday, is still in gaol. For more reflections on the G20, & for updates on arrests & solidarity, please see (& contribute to!) http://arushandapush.blogsome.com

And when the Spokes on the Saturday morning began to speak of abandoning the Hyatt altogether in favour of fast food outlets, my expectations grew even dimmer. In the face of so many police, when we were so few, it seemed to me that people were feeling scared and powerless. More concerned than confrontational.
Taking Stock, **From Dear Oblivion**

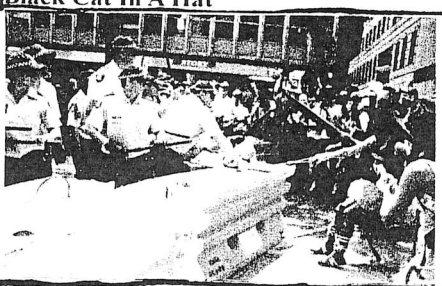
On numerous occasions police failed to distinguish between protesters engaged in threatening or potentially criminal activity and others who were not threatening in any way.... incidents of deliberate and dangerous overhead baton strikes were.... clearly not defensive...
Preliminary Statement: G20 Protests, ***Human Rights Observer Team***

Many were from Sydney, coached by some foreign troublemakers who flew in....
Bloc-heads fail to derail G20, **Herald Sun**

Why must the militant protestor always be an other, both geographically and philosophically distanced from us? Why should struggle respect national or state borders? [...]
Beyond tactics and planning is the exhilaration of embodying refusal – even if only for a moment, and these moments are not without politics. Why should politics and protest be disciplined spaces, spaces without emotion and desire? To be caught up in the moment, in a collective energy, is a rare rupture of the alienation, isolation and powerlessness of our everyday lives. These moments show us what we are capable of; but we are capable of much more. We must preserve a movement of resistance to capitalism that is made up of many different acts of refusal and creation. However, we genuinely fail to understand how anyone who calls herself a revolutionary can fail to find at least some beauty in the sight of a smashed police van.
A first communiqué from two uncitizens of Arterial Bloc, **Gertrude and Fuchsia**

ANZ branches around the city were closed early yesterday afternoon with signs on the doors saying 'branch closed due to G20 protests'.
***Protesters shut bank before G20*, Geelong Advertiser**

I think that large protests containing the breadth of diversity that was on display at G20, should aim to facilitate the activity of the different groups. I see this diversity as a good thing. Different ideas about strategies and tactics can be carried out in the laboratory of the streets. Success and failure on display for all to see and learn from.
***The Politics of the Dispossessed*, The Black Cat In A Hat**



What we do now after that event, how we trace the lines of struggle that it opened up is crucial. There are both opportunities and pitfalls ahead and the telling of the tale, the reflection on our experiences and the sharing of stories is important. Because there is not just one version of what happened: indeed part of the power and joy of experiencing something like this mobilization is being part of a collective moment that has many points of origins and many experiences [...] it was the combination of people experimenting with co-operation, horizontal and autonomous organising and a militant attitude to the state. [...] The attempts at creating moments of alternative social relations at things such as A Space Outside and the multitude of conversations and debates that went on are just as important as any moment of confrontation. They are in many ways the way we give substance to our dreams.
***In the Wake ... After G20*, Dave**

We had a big observers program down from NSW and we had a very extensive debrief yesterday with them to talk through the different issues that we saw.
Victorian Police Assistant Commissioner Gary Jamieson, *G20 protest lessons to be tested at APEC*, *The Age*

[The police] told him [Drasko Boljevic, on being falsely arrested and tortured] that 'he should understand that in these circumstances they (the abductors) can't take any risks' and that 'they need to apply considerable force when dealing with violent suspects' [...] Dear friends, state terrorism exists in Australia.
***Drasko Boljevic was abducted and terrorised on Sunday 19th Nov. 2006*, Eleonor Palacio**

It is vital in these circumstances that the left speak out against this repression and help defend those targeted. [...] Comrades need to feel supported to continue being active with or without charge. Moves to increase state power need to be resisted. In the climate of the recent 'anti-terror' legislation, there is a real move to curtail democratic rights to dissent and we have to confront this. Arguments about the nature of what happened here are secondary: we support the right of people to protest even when we may disagree with the tactics that they employ.
Paddy and Shannon (Solidarity), Socialist Action Group

LONG LIVE NO KING

UNREST IN TONGA

BY PRINCESS HOB

Around the same time that a single police van got smashed in Melbourne, 80% of Nuku'alofa, the capital of Tonga, was destroyed by riots. Six people, reportedly rioters, were killed. Most were young people, who'd reportedly targeted government offices, companies, such as the power company owned by the king, and Chinese-owned businesses.

The riots grew from protests calling for greater democracy. At present, just nine seats of the thirty-person legislative assembly are elected by the public, with the rest appointed directly by the king or reserved for hereditary 'nobles'. Reforms have been promised – a government committee last year recommended that all lawmakers be elected by the public – but on Thursday 16th November the governing assembly finished for the year without passing any pro-democracy reforms. After the riots an emergency session of parliament was called and elections were promised for 2008.

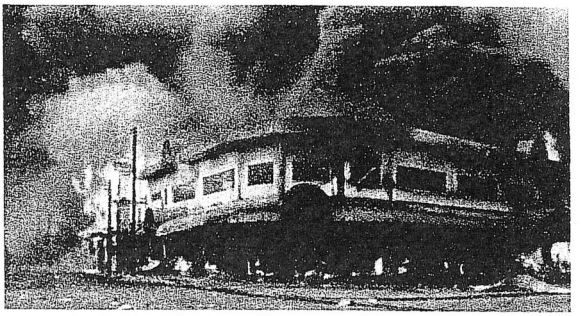
The king imposed a state of emergency: giving police the power to ban meetings of more than five people and impose curfews. A call for military support saw Australia send 52 troops and 35 police, while NZ sent 72 troops and 65 police. The Australian troops left Tonga at the start of December.

Many people were beaten when they were arrested or during interrogation. One prisoner said: 'I saw bloody people come into the cells everyday. People with smashed faces – it just became normal'.[1] Prisoners were held incommunicado in overcrowded prisons with inadequate food and sanitation. Those suspected of arson were kept in handcuffs for up to four days.

Last month's riots were not the first unrest in Tonga. In 2005 there were massive strikes by teachers and other public servants, with a protest march of 10 000 strikers and supporters in the capital. The strike spread widely and the state could only end it by granting the strikers' their demands for pay rises of up to 80%. Earlier in the year 4 000 demonstrators marched on the royal palace protesting rising electricity prices. The country's electricity was privatised four years ago and is run by the Shoreline Group, a company owned by the king. There were also demonstrations against the imposition of a 15% consumption tax and Tonga's entry to the WTO.

1(*The Systematic Torture and abuse of prisoners by the government of Tonga following civil unrest in November 2006*) Report at: http://www.crin.org/violence/search/closeup.asp?infoID=11609

A former British protectorate, Tonga became fully independent in 1970, though it was never formally colonised. It maintains the last Polynesian monarchy, whose king controls the country's semi-feudal political system and most of its economy. The economy is dependent on farming, fishing and remittances from expatriate Tongans, many living in New Zealand.



King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV died last year after ruling for 41 years. His reputation was tainted by a series of financial scandals. From the mid 1980s the country made money selling passports, mainly to Asian buyers. Much of the $30 million made was lost in speculative investments. The new king, Tupou V, has not yet been crowned: after the riots, his coronation was put back another year until 2008. He is a controversial figure, as he owns some of the country's biggest businesses, including the once publicly owned power company Shoreline. Electricity prices were the subject of demonstrations last year and there is pressure to re-nationalise the energy provider (for which the king will, of course, be compensated.)

Many of the people involved in the pro-democracy movement are business owners and other middle-class elements who resent the monarchy for monopolising economic and political power as they would rather see it in their own hands. However, the riots and previous unrest, such as massive demonstrations and strikes last year, reveal that there is wider opposition to both the monarchy and economic injustice.

While Australia and New Zealand sent in troops to help quell further unrest, they do not necessarily support the monarchy. New Zealand's Prime Minister Helen Clark said of the foreign intervention: "We'll push for as much democracy as can be gained in Tonga. Tonga has been a feudal monarchy, and there's no place for that in the 21st century."

The state has implemented a number of modernisation reforms in the past few years, such as privatising state assets, downsizing the public service, changing the tax system and joining the WTO (on what Oxfam called the worst terms of any country), which have increased the gap between the rich and poor. However, for Australia, New Zealand, and organisations such as the International Monetary Fund, the monarchy is not doing a good enough job opening up Tonga's markets and resources. Privatisation, for example, generally involves assets going to royalty and nobles, about three-quarters of Tongan land is owned by the royal family and the nobility, and foreign investors are not allowed to buy land.

Intervention by Australia and New Zealand in the Pacific region can also be seen as a response to a perceived threat from China, which is also seeking to exercise influence over the area. Chinese nationals and Chinese-owned businesses are often the targets of violence and unrest, which the Chinese government could use as an excuse for its own intervention- a threat of intervention that the West, in turn, could use to justify its own local imperialism.

NEVER HAS SO MUCH DEATH, BEEN WORTH SO MUCH CAPITAL

Now approaching its 4th year, the Iraq war is a prime example of how the politics of oppression rely upon contradictory logic. This is a result of the occupation having been constructed by corporate looters with no regard for the welfare of the conquered.

One of the reasons the anti war movement has faltered in recent years seems to be that there is no single unifying discourse between those who resist the occupation. Some argue for the immediate withdraw of troops on the grounds that it is simply fuelling the insurgency and the West should concentrate on bringing Islamic Extremists to justice in other theatres of conflict. Others argue for resistance to a militaristic adventure and that democracy in the Middle East cannot be achieved. Still others see the War as being an exercise in U.S hegemony designed to instil fear and obedience amongst all nations of the globe. Yet public opinion both in Australia and amongst the populations of the other countries comprising the "Coalition of the Killing" remains steadfastly opposed to this highly brutal and illegal operation.

The Iraq War is one segment of the grand project for corporate structure to claim ownership and rights of production over the resources of the entire globe. This phenomenon is best typified by the term 'Global Village' which is bandied about in the press as a warm and fuzzy definition designed to convey feelings of universal fellowship and co-operation.

The War of (T)error is simply a blanket term for these attempts to carry out the military operations necessary to bring about grand acts of larceny. In the same way that the British gentry seized vast amounts of land from the Rural and Working classes during the ferment of the Industrial revolution, so does the 'developed world' attempt to seize the land and resources from Third World Countries, in an attempt to institute a vast Corporate Autocracy.

The Iraq War has been staged and managed from its very inception. From the phoney intelligence used to shore up support in the diplomatic community, alleging that the country was in possession of the ubiquitous weapons of mass destruction and had strong ties to Al Qaeda, to the choreographed shots of the suspiciously meagre "screaming crowds" cheering for American soldiers in their tanks knocking down a statue of Saddam, (who in turn draped the fallen image with an American flag before coming to realise the implications of such a faux pas and then replaced it with a flag of the Iraqi persuasion), to the tale of Private Jessica Lynch who was wounded in battle, and admitted to one of the few remaining Iraqi hospitals only to be snatched from the ward by Marines who then claimed she was "rescued" from her "captors" and paraded before the worlds media in a classic "feel-good" story designed to bolster the spirit of the populations already suspicious of an extremely questionable conflict.

Accusations of stupidity and incompetence abound in relation to the Bush Administration's decision to completely dismantle Iraqi infrastructure after the fall of Saddam and the conquest of Baghdad. However, considering that Halliburton has captured the majority of the contracts for the reconstruction, it is not unreasonable to suspect that perhaps this was intended as a way to ensure that the country would now obey American rule and agree to be beholden to corporate financial interests if it wished to pull itself from the maw of destruction wrought by the American Military death Machines. Market research was conducted amongst the Iraqi populace, inquiring as to their precise opinions on how pleasurable they found the bombs and bullets raining down on their families, friends and neighbours.

The British Government must face accusations that the so-called suicide of Biological Weapons expert Dr David Kelly now looks far more suspicious than originally considered. The man who famously claimed that the intelligence justifying the Iraq War had been "sexed up" as opposed to merely being fabricated, was found dead of an apparently self inflicted wound to the wrist in 2003.

The lies of Tony Blair's filthy government now seem rather sinister. Two British Troops arrested in Basra were later freed from jail by their comrades. These two had been arrested in civilian clothes for "terrorist offences." Forgive my cynicism, but in light of a campaign involving faked photography, phoney suicides, slander, false intelligence, and staged incidents, is it really to much to suspect that this may perhaps be indicative of Coalition troops being directly involved in so called 'terrorist' or insurgent activities in order to prolong the necessity for their presence?

Democracy is withering in the countries involved in the "War of (T)error" despite America's assertion that it wishes to bring freedom to the Middle East. Bearing in mind that the prison of Abu Gharib, site of America's torture scandal was also the location where Saddam tortured many of his prisoners and dissidents, one may be entitled to a deep suspicion of their motives. Condaleeza Rices assertion to Anti War protestors earlier this year that she was glad democracy was flourishing here as it was in the University of Baghdad was a cute sound bite, but failed to take into account that since the 2003 invasion there has been a concentrated effort to kill Iraqi academics. It has been estimated that 1000 Iraqi professionals and intellectuals were murdered in the first year of occupation due to their opposition towards the government proposed to replace Saddam.

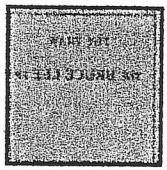
King George II has recently asserted that Iraq is one of the premiere battle grounds in his War of (T)error which is probably one of the few true statements to pass his lying lips. People need an actual conflict in order to sustain their interest in its ideological counterpart. Images, battles and body counts must be present in order for people to feel that there is something actually going on outside the shadowy manipulations of the global intelligence communities. In addition, the injustice and brutality will ensure that Al Qaeda and other Islamic militant groups will have a steady stream of eager recruits. As long as the Iraq War continues so too will the War of (T)error.

Now is the time to start building networks of resistance and opposition to the military's encroachment on a most basic of human rights; the ability to decide whether or not we join the military murder machine.

Marshall Cinque

Reviews

The Thaw
The Bruce Lee EP (2005)
(Album)



Those wicked tricksters! Nefarious harpies! Inveigle me to a mirror, with their clever inverted letterings on the back of their cardboard sleeve, only to have Nietzsche tell your poor dear author that freedom can only be attained through no longer being ashamed in front of said-self. A pitiful creature, your author saw, and ghastly by such said-truths. Wicked, wicked pranksters...

As I am abruptly roused from my rest in my armchair, the fireplace licking at my feet, and Poe is purring dreams in my lap; I find myself staring, staring at the Bruce Lee assemblage. A 17 minute singular assemblage, and like a Joseph Cornell box, it is a showcase of vivacious wonderment. Displayed within is a figurine of carefree Caucophony, hand-in-hand with youthful Melody, marooned on their stony island to construct their hut of straw and raucousness. Strangely, the rock island has a 50c stamp affixed to its side. And above it all, suspended by tinsel to the roof of the exhibit's mouth, is a trio of angelic statuettes swaying in time, and as if in blissful chorus.

Like the tap tap tapping on my bedroom floor, the jest – as it dawns on this sorry soul – is that The Thaw is teasing, yours truly. Having tasted the richness of their sounds, and having found it wanting, it leaves your dear despondent author slapping his veins, writhing on the floor, ears bleeding from having it on permanent repeat, (half delusional) and trying to catch those fluttering sweet words that are sung just beyond his grasp. And so, the only way to be permitted a moment of respite is to yank his belt, strap it to emaciated arm, and await for an intravenous shot of that chillingly intense euphoria.... I'm still waiting for mine....
A cassette tape of theirs, perhaps an album, is out there somewhere, but I fear I won't live long enough to clasp such rectangular delights. At my behest, the editors are to put me in cryogenic stasis, and alas my dear reader, I will be frozen with a permanent frown.... until I am thawed.

Dumpstered Twin

***Community Response to Sexual Assault Workshop* at *Live and Let D.I.Y.* festival (1st, 2nd + 3rd of December) in BrisVegas.**

We went to the D.I.Y. festival on the weekend. While the festival was awesome and so many things were going on we decided to write about one workshop in particular; Community Response to Sexual Assault. We heard that a similar workshop was run at a Space Outside. What became clear during the workshop was that it seems like our communities aren't very well prepared to deal with sexual assault issues (who's are?) and one of the most important things that needs to happen is that we should be talking and writing about this more. The more we make it an open issue the easier it will be for us to deal with it together and for people to talk about it when they are already dealing with the difficult and confusing issue of being assaulted.

This workshop was posed as a beginning and it feels like early days in developing a culture of dealing with sexual assault. It was said that it felt like every time something of this nature happened it was like starting again from scratch – myths needed to be busted, people educated etc. before the survivor could get the support they needed; if they ended up getting it at all.

One of the most striking subjects that we talked about was the different ways that those presenting themselves as male or female experienced public space. How can a boy really understand what it's like to constantly feel aware of being under a sexualised gaze and monitoring their behaviour accordingly? It seems simple but important to realise that the privilege of walking freely and comfortably in public space is not available to all.

Although the workshop covered a lot of important ground there is one more thing we want to briefly talk about here; what it means to be 'called out'. This is when someone openly states that they have been made to feel unsafe by another's actions. What needs to happen is that the 'survivor' (a somewhat

clumsy but more positive term than 'victim') is listened to and not questioned. Our culture has a habit of wanting details, to find out if we agree with the story before helping the survivor get the space and support they need to feel safe again and to heal.

One of the conclusions we reached is that if a survivor asks someone to leave a space, they should do so; this is not admitting that they have done something wrong, on the contrary, it shows that they are committed to making our spaces safer and that they respect the feelings of others; it's also a way of defusing the situation and allows people to talk about the situation later in a more calm and comfortable way.

This workshop is an important step in making progress on this issue. Expect more on this topic soon.

Graf Cat and Angry Nerd

Dear Marshall,

[DISCLAIMER: i am a friend - not literally, but in a political sense - so i hope you don' t take the following drawl as an intended attack or offensive backlashhing: though i understand disclaimers like this often accompany brutal diatribes attempting to put some kind of 'Whoah...i didn;t mean it like THAT..."... Maybe an inter-political dispute, shall we say?]
...so i read the September issue of Mutiny, lovely stuff. i am intrigued as to who Marshall Cinque is and why you decided to say "...human history stretches 8000 years prior to this date..." . Last time I checked, Indigenous folks of Aust. Pty Ltd. were hanging around as far back as 80, 000 years ago. Though i think for the carbon-dating records it' s a measily 40,000 years, due to the 'insufficient evidence' piling up in regional councils and archaeological departments in unis from Sydney to Chicago. Hey, maybe it' s a typo. and 8000 years is a fucken long time too, i totally agree with you.
The bit about Christianity and Judaism being all oppressive-like is also somthing i agree with. i dunno if an all-out slag-on-Chrisso' s is going to help though (not that you were doing that necessarily). I' m making an assumption here, but i' m betting that most of your readership is of a non-fundamentalist religious status - maybe even 'secular', am i pushing it if I say 'loosley anarchist'? - and thus there would be possibly a case of preaching to the converted on this particular matter(pun intended)? I guess the only reason i have beef with this matter is because despite how rooted the capitalisation of religion and fundamentalist religion is, i met some rather cool chrisso kidz last year, doing much more in terms of pragmatic activism than i - and most of my mates (i' m going to lump them in with my argument) - were currently doing. i admire religo communities to an extent. they' ve got a solid basis for political agreement, and let' s not pretend it doesn' t work. hillsong for christs' sake! Did i hear you say 'how many people can i sway?' ! Put yr hands up and vote!
i admire the generalisation of wanting to abolish the calendar because of what it represents. perhaps, realisticlly, how can we resist or react against this matter of all-encompassing time-codes to keep the rats in the wheels and make them forget why they' re there.???? i look forward to a reply...and seriously, i hate christianity. (it' s worthwhile relating the 'love thy neighbour' passage back to them next time youre on a train with a conscriptor. poor bastards.)

with respectful rebuttle,
yours, mr. fart.

in this issue:

4 - '*Make Your Choices Count*' takes a critical stab at the union led anti-work choices campaign.

6 - '*Shutter It Down*' has a look at a workers victory in Turrella.

8 - Our centrefold contains a few perspectives on recent G20 action.

10 - '*Long Live No King*' takes a peak at recent heavy unrest in Tonga.

12 - *'War'*, Marshall Cinque fights the draft.

14 - Reviews of *The Thaw, The Bruce Lee EP* and a community responce to sexual assault workshop.